



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/932,262	08/17/2001	Christine Otero	CLICP018	3914
28875 7590 01/26/2007 Zilka-Kotab, PC P.O. BOX 721120 SAN JOSE, CA 95172-1120			EXAMINER ROSWELL, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT 2173	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			01/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/932,262

Applicant(s)

ODERO ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Roswell

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the amendment to the claims filed 2 November 2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 14-16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson (US Patent 6,769,019) and Sheldon et al (US Patent 6,072,486), hereinafter Sheldon.

In regards to claims 1, 10 and 19, Ferguson teaches displaying a toolbar over a web browser (as can be seen in the browser of Fig. 5), presenting a portal to a user, wherein the portal is for aggregating content selected by the user, presenting a bucket to the user, recognizing when the user selects content on a website displayed on the web browser and drops the content in the bucket, and adding the selected content to the portal (taught as the dragging and dropping of selected hyperlinks into the graphical user interface [GUI] 246 of the invention, seen in Figs. 7 and 8, the hyperlinks then being listed in the "open" GUI as seen in Fig. 8, the open GUI being analogous to the claimed "portal". See Ferguson, col. 6, line 60 through col. 7, line 59).

However, Ferguson fails to explicitly teach the linking of a portal of a user to a toolbar, and the further presentation of a bucket on the toolbar.

Art Unit: 2173

Sheldon teaches a system and method for use with web browser toolbars, similar to those of Ferguson. Furthermore, Sheldon teaches the ability to customize the toolbar of a user interface by adding, deleting, or changing the function of an associated button (col. 1, lines 44-48). Thus the incorporation of the GUI 246, and its inherent link to the displayed portal in Ferguson, is made possible by the toolbar customization of Sheldon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson and Sheldon before him at the time the invention was made to modify the web browser toolbar, portal and bucket of Ferguson to include the toolbar customization of Sheldon.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing the user with quick and easy access to the most frequently used application functions in a prominent area of the application GUI. See Sheldon, col. 1, lines 46-48.

Regarding claims 3 and 12, Sheldon teaches the customization of a toolbar to include any buttons and functions selected by the user, at col. 1, lines 44-48. This customization as taught by Sheldon would allow for the creation of a customization button on the toolbar.

Regarding claims 5 and 14, Sheldon shows in Figs. 18-20 a toolbar button for linking a user to their email.

Regarding claims 6, 7, 9, 15, 16, and 18 Sheldon teaches the customization of a toolbar to include any buttons and functions selected by the user, at col. 1, lines 44-48. This customization as taught by Sheldon would allow for the creation of a button for bookmarks, bookmark synchronization, and toolbar color.

Art Unit: 2173

Claims 2, 11, 20, 21, 23-25, ²⁷28-29, 31-33, 35, 36, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon, and Howard et al (US Patent 6,584,505), hereinafter Howard.

Regarding claims 2 and 11, Ferguson and Sheldon have been shown to teach a web browser toolbar linked to a user portal with drag and drop content selection.

However, Ferguson and Sheldon fail to explicitly teach the toolbar including a sign on button linked to the portal upon the user signing in.

Howard teaches the use of web browsers in a network environment, similar to those of Ferguson and Sheldon. Furthermore, Howard teaches the use of sign on buttons in a web browser to allow access to secure information (col. 6, lines 53-62).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon, and Howard before him at the time the invention was made to modify the toolbar button customization of Ferguson and Sheldon to include the secure sign on of Howard.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the well known advantage of protecting information and data specific to a user.

Regarding claims 20, 28, 36, and 38, Ferguson teaches displaying a toolbar over a web browser (as can be seen in the browser of Fig. 5), presenting a portal to a user, wherein the portal is for aggregating content selected by the user, presenting a bucket to the user, recognizing when the user selects content on a website displayed on the web browser and drops the content in the bucket, and adding the selected content to the portal (taught as the

Art Unit: 2173

dragging and dropping of selected hyperlinks into the graphical user interface [GUI] **246** of the invention, seen in Figs. 7 and 8, the hyperlinks then being listed in the "open" GUI as seen in Fig. 8, the open GUI being analogous to the claimed "portal". See Ferguson, col. 6, line 60 through col. 7, line 59).

However, Ferguson fails to explicitly teach the linking of a portal of a user to a toolbar, and the further presentation of a bucket on the toolbar.

Sheldon teaches a system and method for use with web browser toolbars, similar to those of Ferguson. Furthermore, Sheldon teaches the ability to customize the toolbar of a user interface by adding, deleting, or changing the function of an associated button (col. 1, lines 44-48). Thus the incorporation of the GUI **246**, and its inherent link to the displayed portal in Ferguson, is made possible by the toolbar customization of Sheldon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson and Sheldon before him at the time the invention was made to modify the web browser toolbar, portal and bucket of Ferguson to include the toolbar customization of Sheldon.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing the user with quick and easy access to the most frequently used application functions in a prominent area of the application GUI. See Sheldon, col. 1, lines 46-48.

However, Ferguson and Sheldon fail to explicitly teach the toolbar including a sign on button linked to the portal upon the user signing in.

Howard teaches the use of web browsers in a network environment, similar to those of Ferguson and Sheldon. Furthermore, Howard teaches the use of sign on buttons in a web browser to allow access to secure information (col. 6, lines 53-62).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon, and Howard before him at the time the invention was made to modify the toolbar button customization of Ferguson and Sheldon to include the secure sign on of Howard.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the well known advantage of protecting information and data specific to a user.

Regarding claims 21 and 29, Sheldon teaches the customization of a toolbar to include any buttons and functions selected by the user, at col. 1, lines 44-48. This customization as taught by Sheldon would allow for the creation of a customization button on the toolbar.

Regarding claims 23 and 31, Sheldon shows in Figs. 18-20 a toolbar button for linking a user to their email.

Regarding claims 24, 25, 27, 32, 33, and 35, Sheldon teaches the customization of a toolbar to include any buttons and functions selected by the user, at col. 1, lines 44-48. This customization as taught by Sheldon would allow for the creation of a button for bookmarks, bookmark synchronization, and toolbar color.

Claims 4 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon, and Schultz et al (US Patent 6,453,339), hereinafter Schultz.

Ferguson and Sheldon have been shown to teach a web browser toolbar linked to a user portal with drag and drop content selection, and the customization of toolbar buttons.

However, Ferguson and Sheldon fail to explicitly teach a headlines button on the toolbar for displaying the headlines of the portal on the web browser.

Schultz teaches a method for presenting "channelized" data to a user, similar to the portal of Sheldon. Furthermore, Schultz teaches the aggregation of channelized headlines at col. 3, lines 19-47.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon and Schultz before him at the time the invention was made to modify the web browser, portal and button customization of Ferguson and Sheldon to include the headline display of Schultz.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing an intuitive and user-friendly interface for the management of portal data, at col. 1, lines 39-42.

Claims 22 and 30 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon, Howard and Schultz.

Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard have been shown to teach a web browser, toolbar and portal that include a secure sign on button.

However, Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard fail to explicitly teach a headlines button on the toolbar for displaying the headlines of the portal on the web browser.

Schultz teaches a method for presenting "channelized" data to a user, similar to the portal of Sheldon. Furthermore, Schultz teaches the aggregation of channelized headlines at col. 3, lines 19-47.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon, Howard and Schultz before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the web browser, portal and button customization of Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard to include the headline display of Schultz.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing an intuitive and user-friendly interface for the management of portal data, at col. 1, lines 39-42.

Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon and Shafron (US Publication 2004/0165007).

Ferguson and Sheldon have been shown to teach a web browser toolbar linked to a user portal with drag and drop content selection, and the customization of toolbar buttons.

However, Ferguson and Sheldon fail to explicitly teach a search field included in the toolbar, wherein search results are displayed upon entry of a search term in the search field.

Shafron teaches the use of a toolbar similar to those of Ferguson and Sheldon. Furthermore Shafron shows a search field included in the toolbar, and the subsequent display of related results, at Fig. 4, and further taught at ¶0035.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon and Shafron before him at the time the invention was made to modify the browser and toolbar of Ferguson and Sheldon to include the search field of Shafron.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing a consistently present search feature on a browser interface, as opposed to a user having to first access a search web page.

Claims 26 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon, Howard, and Shafron.

Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard have been shown to teach a web browser, toolbar and portal that include a secure sign on button.

However, Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard fail to explicitly teach a search field included with the toolbar of the web browser.

Shafron teaches the use of a toolbar similar to those of Ferguson and Sheldon. Furthermore Shafron shows a search field included in the toolbar, and the subsequent display of related results, at Fig. 4, and further taught at ¶0035.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Ferguson, Sheldon, Howard and Shafron before him at the time the invention was made to modify the browser and toolbar of Ferguson, Sheldon and Howard to include the search field of Shafron.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of providing a consistently present search feature on a browser interface, as opposed to a user having to first access a search web page.

Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson, Sheldon, Howard, Shafron, and Schultz.

In regards to claim 37, the claim includes an aggregation of limitations present in the independent and dependent claims 1-36, and is therefore rejected for the above reasons.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 2173

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Roswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4055. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael Roswell

1/22/2007


TADESSE HAILU
Patent Examiner